

What a better place we have become
because of all that immigrants have done.
They've shared their different ways they
cook
and written many stories in a book.
The unique styles that they wear—
now you see them everywhere.
They've brought us lots of delicious foods
which certainly has improved our moods!
They've created dances, songs and art
Which has caused happiness in my heart.
All the immigrants' different languages are
so neat
To learn them all would be quite a feat!
In this country you can have your say
You can give your opinion and talk all day!
We are all immigrants in our own way—
I'm so glad that we're all here to stay!

WHY I AM GLAD THAT AMERICA IS A NATION
OF IMMIGRANTS

(By John Klaasen, Olympia, WA, finalist)

Iceland
Madagascar
Mexico
India
Germany
Russia
Afghanistan
Nepal
Taiwan
South Korea
Oceania
Finland
Thailand
Haiti
Ecuador
Uruguay
New Zealand
Indonesia
Turkey
Egypt
Denmark
Spain
Tanzania
Albania
Togo
Ethiopia
Sri Lanka
Oman
France
Algeria
Mongolia
Eritrea
Romania
Iraq
Canada
Argentina

All
Refugees
Enter Looking for
Freedom,
Respect and
Open arms into our
Merry nation
Asylum
Legal residence and
Liberty
Offer
Values,
Education,
Rights,
Traditions,
Honor and
Equal treatment.
We
Offer
Refugees
Lasting

Democracy.

WHY I AM GLAD AMERICA IS A NATION OF
IMMIGRANTS

(By Allison Paige Sigmon, Sparta, NC,
finalist)

Intelligence, inventions
Movies, medicine, music, melting pot
Medical breakthroughs, marketing
Innovations, instruments (musical)
Global diversity, gods, government
Racial equality, restaurants, religion
Ancestors, agriculture, architecture, art-
ists
News, Nobel Peace Prize, nationalities
Teachers, theatre, trade, technology,
transportation
Space travel, sports, science

All of these words are what I think immi-
grants have brought to our country to make
us a strong and powerful nation.

WHY I'M GLAD AMERICA IS A NATION OF
IMMIGRANTS

(By Christa Conway, Manchester, CT,
finalist)

What do the people bring when they come to
America's shores?
What do the people bring on their boats row-
ing with oars?
What do the people bring in their trunks,
bags, and cases?
What do the people bring?
They bring a world of new faces.
The first sight that they get of land, is like
a cavern of gold
They see all brand new faces, all both young
and old.
They see the green fresh grass, or see the
glittering snow,
What do the immigrants see?
They see a new world to know.
What were the gifts they brought?
They weren't gold, riches and powers!
They brought just simply their culture,
Which now we proclaim as ours.
Music, festivals, stories,
Which we can now enjoy.
Everyone will enjoy it!!
Every girl and every boy!!
So why I'm glad America
Is a nation of immigrants true,
Is something that really matters,
It matters to me and you.
Immigrants are what make America whole,
What makes it pure and unique.
This melting pot of cultures,
Will never spring a leak!!!•

“THE WONDERS OF WARD 8”

• Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, it
gives me pleasure to bring to my col-
leagues' attention a truly remarkable
program that, unfortunately, is not lo-
cated in my home state of Vermont,
but nonetheless, does great work for
Vermonters. Let me talk for a moment
about the “Wonders of Ward 8.” To en-
lighten my colleagues, “Ward 8”
houses the inpatient Post Traumatic
Stress Disorder (PTSD) treatment pro-
gram at the Northhampton VA hospi-
tal. According to Friends of Ward 8, a
group of veterans whose lives have
taken on new meaning as a result of
their treatment at this facility, there
is no better place on earth to deal with
the psychological wounds of war.

The Department of Veterans Affairs
(VA) is recognized worldwide as a true
leader in the area of PTSD research
and I applaud my friend Dr. Matt
Friedman and his staff at the National
Center for PTSD for the incredible
work they have done to bring this
often debilitating condition to the
forefront of public recognition and
scholarly research. Thanks also go to
Dr. Friedman for making treatment of
PTSD a priority for the VA. Ward 8 is
a shining example of what an inpatient
program specializing in trauma treat-
ment should look like. Although Ward
8 is located in Massachusetts, veterans
from all over the country have bene-
fitted from this program—including
many, many Vermonters. It was estab-
lished to offer inpatient rehabilitative
treatment to veterans suffering from
PTSD as a result of their wartime serv-
ice and is one of eight inpatient VA
programs. Ward 8 provides this high
quality service while running one of
the most efficient and cost effective in-
patient treatment program in the VA
system.

According to the Friends of Ward 8,
the staff at this facility are the reason
for its success. I would like to recog-
nize and thank the “heroes” of Ward 8
beginning with the Program Director
Dr. Sonny Monteiro and his dedicated
staff of men and women including Dr.
Richard Pearlstein, Bruce Bennett,
Sherrill Ashton, John Christopher, Ken
Zerner, Gary Kuck, Fran Lunny, Joe
Polito, Brooks Ryder, Judy Zahn,
Heather White, Wayne Lynch, Alec
Provost, Mike Connor, Barbara Graf
and Delores Elliott. I hear again and
again from Vermonters about how they
bring compassion and healing to the
science of mental health. It is the
human touch that they so generously
dispense that makes such a difference
in the lives of veterans who struggle to
recuperate from their wounds of war.
Their dedication to their jobs and to
the lives they touch has built a legacy
for this program unrivaled by any
other PTSD program in the country.

I thank you, Ward 8, and the many
veterans from around the country who
have crossed your threshold, thank
you.•

RECOGNIZING QWEST COMMUNICA-
TIONS INTERNATIONAL

• Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I rise to
comment on some significant develop-
ments that have recently taken place
in my home state of Colorado that will
positively benefit the entire world of
telecommunications.

Qwest Communications Inter-
national, Inc. of Denver, a young,
worldwide leader in broadband Inter-
net-based communications, continues
to expand its technologies and vision
for the coming century. Just three and
one-half years ago, this innovative
company catapulted the world into the

Information Age beginning by branding its nation-wide fiber-optic network and developing connections into Mexico, intercontinental cable to Europe and transpacific submarine capacity to the Pacific Rim. The Company's services provide a full range of leading-edge data, voice, video, e-commerce, web-hosting and related services to consumers and business customers, including a variety of multimillion dollar government contracts recently awarded to Qwest, such as the Treasury Department and DOE's Energy Sciences Network.

Qwest has positioned itself for the new Information Age economy by combining its strengths and forming numerous strategic alliances, partnerships and evolving its next-generation infrastructure through a variety of acquisitions.

About one year ago Qwest and U.S. WEST announced their intent to merge. On Friday, June 30 that merger became reality.

I applaud the FCC, the states and other appropriate agencies for reviewing and approving this complementary merger in a respectable timeframe and in accordance with the 1996 Telecommunications Act. This now allows the "new" Qwest to bring a different competitive dynamic to the global marketplace.

I ask my colleagues today to join me in commending the regulatory bodies for enhancing the process of this merger and to the Companies' merger review team, led by Drake Tempest and Steve Davis, as well as other Company officials. In closing, I extend my best wishes for continued success to Qwest and its Chairman and CEO, Joe Nacchio. Mr. Nacchio will resume the leadership of the "new" Qwest to bring the benefits of this global Company to all of our constituents.●

RECOGNITION OF THE YOUTH INVESTMENT PROGRAM OF THE TUKWILA SCHOOL DISTRICT

● Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, in February of 1999, I awarded my first Innovation in Education Award to the Tukwila School District for their "Friends and Family Program." Now, over a year later, I am standing on the Senate floor again to recognize an innovative program in this same district, the Youth Investment Program at Cascade View Elementary. As both these awards indicate, great things are coming out of the Tukwila School District and this innovative summer school program is no exception.

Teachers and educators at Cascade View Elementary realized that many of their students were in need of additional help to be ready for their upcoming school year. Cascade Valley wanted to take advantage of the summer months to target students who need extra help in reading, math, and writ-

ing skills. Thus, the Youth Investment Program was created. Last week, I visited with teachers and students from this program and witnessed first-hand the tremendous impact that it has on its students.

In classes where approximately 22-percent of the students speak English as a second language and skill levels range across the board, these teachers have produced spectacular results in their students' academic achievements and social development.

Michael Silver, Superintendent of the Tukwila District, says "There is a high percentage of kids from different ethnic groups who are at different skill levels. Our program has been able to streamline their learning to catch them up for their new grade level."

The Youth Investment Program is also preparing students to succeed in the 21st century by incorporating computer training into many of the traditional academic subjects. The computer skills of each child are monitored throughout program. Teachers have also used computers to teach non-traditional courses such as drama and music which has enabled students and teachers to bring new meaning to the classroom. I am positive that these students will return to school in the fall not only equipped with renewed confidence but also with the skills and knowledge demanded by the new technology age.

After spending a time with the students and teachers involved in the Youth Investment Program, it was not hard for me to see why the efforts of the Tukwila School District continue to stand out among local education in Washington State. Mr. President, the Youth Investment Program demonstrates once again that our local educators know how to meet the needs of their students. I applaud the work of the staff and teachers at Cascade View and I am pleased to present my 44th Innovation in Education Award to the Youth Investment Program.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. McCathran, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 1:09 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by

Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker pro tempore has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 148. An act to require the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program to provide assistance in the conservation of neotropical migratory birds.

The bill was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-9598. A communication from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled "Equitable Relief Granted By The Secretary Of Veterans Affairs In Calendar Year 1999"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-9599. A communication from the Vice-Chairman of the Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Election Cycle Reporting by Authorized Committees", received on July 6, 2000; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-9600. A communication from the Director of Policy Directives and Instructions Branch, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Jurisdictional change for the Los Angeles and San Francisco asylum offices" (RIN1115-AF18 (INS No. 1949-98)) received on June 27, 2000; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-9601. A communication from the Attorney General, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the status of the United States Parole Commission; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-9602. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Office of Police Corps and Law Enforcement Education for Calendar Year 1999; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-9603. A communication from the Associate Deputy Attorney General and White House Liaison, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Attorney General, Tax Division, Department of Justice; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-9604. A communication from the Legislative Liaison of the Trade and Development Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to funding obligations dated June 22, 2000; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-9605. A communication from the Architect of the Capitol, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of all expenditures during the period October 1, 1999 through March 31, 2000; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-9606. A communication from the Assistant Legal Advisor for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the texts of international agreements, other than treaties, and background statements; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-9607. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to